

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract beginning on page 18, line 1, with the following Abstract:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE DIGITAL CONTROL OF AN ELEMENT OF A PRINTING MACHINE, AND PRINTING MACHINE

Abstract of the Disclosure

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a method, apparatus and a printing machine (1) having a control device system (8, 8', 8'', 8''') for the digital control of an element of the printing machine (1), an assignment (6, 6') of two non-coincident digital variables (2 and 2') being carried out.

— The error of such an assignment (6, 6') can be kept small in that, for successive assignments (6, 6'), an integer assignment (6, 6') of small steps (3) of a first variable (2) to a large step (3') of a second variable (2') is carried out in such a way that for each assignment (6, 6') the numerical ratio remains constant or is changed in such a way that the assignment error (4, 4') never reaches the width (5) of the smaller steps (3) of the first variable (2) in any assignment (6, 6').